

Dear Legislature Transportation Committee,

The border tolls that are suggested would be an economic disaster for Danbury as well as other border communities. The tolls will also serve to reduce revenue to the state by discouraging out of state residents from accessing Danbury businesses which are the leading source of state sales tax revenue.

Tolls would put a brake on business activity that would defeat any gains from the tolls. The sales tax revenue from the Danbury area, the largest in the state, would be lost due the diminished shopping activity from out of state shoppers. The surrounding towns to Danbury would also be severely compromised due to diverted traffic that would be created on side roads and thus challenge their quality of life.

The localized damage from the proposed tolls are known by the legislators who propose them. That is why tolls are not proposed for their towns. Tolls could be just as easily installed anywhere on the Connecticut River crossings or anywhere else across the state. But of course this is not proposed. What is proposed is just to cripple the City of Danbury.

Please do what you can to fund transportation improvements from some method that is both fair to the whole state and will not compromise Connecticut sales tax revenue from out of state shopping. Thank you for your efforts.

*John H. Coords*

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